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## **Casebeer House Oral History Summary**

The Casebeer House in Silver Cliff, Colorado, represents a preserved example of Victorian architecture. Originally featuring a wooden shingle roof, the house has undergone modifications due to safety concerns, such as chimney fires that led to the removal of most chimneys. Remaining features include a partial chimney in the attic, showcasing intricate brickwork. Exterior highlights include sculpted shingles on all gables, handmade stained glass doors, and locally sourced granite thresholds. The original porch, restored with its 19th-century iron rod and latticework, remains a defining characteristic.

The interior retains much of its Victorian charm, with restored oak woodwork, horsehair plaster walls, and fir flooring supported by sturdy beams. Unique architectural details include bullseye transoms above doorways for ventilation and picture molding wainscotting. Some doorknobs date back to 1860, and baseboards measure an imposing 9 inches high. The house originally featured two chimneys with long smoke shelves designed to mitigate mountain downdrafts.

One of the home's original dining room shelves, said to have held a gingerbread cloth, remains intact, adding to its historical ambiance. Like many Victorian homes, bedrooms lacked built-in closets, requiring custom additions.

This oral history not only documents the house's design but also underscores the effort to preserve its original craftsmanship and the historical narrative of the Casebeer family.

This summary was created with ChatGPT.